

## **CHADRON, NEBRASKA**

**September 09, 2025**

### **DAWES COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**

The Public convened meeting of the Dawes County Commissioners in regular session commenced at the hour of 9:00 A.M. on the 9<sup>th</sup> day of September, 2025 pursuant to public notice as required by law. The meeting was called to order by Chairman Vic Rivera. Board Members present were Walter Juhlin and Jake Stewart. Also present was Cheryl Feist, Dawes County Clerk; Sam Wellnitz, Treasurer; Katie Schenbeck, Lindy Coleman, Assessor, Nels Stephens and Adam Edmund, Deputy County Attorney. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by those present. At this time the Board Chairman, Vic Rivera, asked for a few moments of silence in honor of the victims of the September 11<sup>th</sup> attack on the United States. Per LB 898, Commissioner Rivera announced the location of the Open Meetings Act located on the door by the United States Flag. Copies of the Act are available upon request. Commissioner Stewart, seconded by Juhlin, moved to approve the agenda noting the Sheriff's Department surplus bids re: 2011 Tahoe. Roll call vote, Ayes: Juhlin, Stewart and Rivera. Nays: None. Motion carried. Minutes of the August 26, 2025 Commissioner Meeting were reviewed. Commissioner Stewart, seconded by Juhlin, moved to approve the minutes as published. Roll call vote, Ayes: Stewart, Rivera and Juhlin. Nays: None. Motion carried. Monthly fee/mileage reports of the various departments were approved by general consent of the Board. Claims were reviewed. Commissioner Stewart, seconded by Juhlin, moved to approve all claims as submitted. Roll call vote, Ayes: Rivera, Juhlin and Stewart. Nays: None. Motion carried. There wasn't anyone present interested in public comment. The Board acknowledged receipt of a letter from NBEAD informing the Board that 14,288 locations are eligible in Nebraska for funding priority projects. Kerri Rempp, Tourism Director, joined the meeting.

At 9:18 A.M. Kerri Rempp, Tourism Director, met with the Board. She presented a promotional grant for advertising of the Grey Eagle Warrior Challenge on September 27, 2025 in the amount of \$1500.00 for Board review. Commissioner Stewart, seconded by Juhlin, moved to approve the Grey Eagle Warrior Challenge grant in the amount of \$1500.00. Roll call vote, Ayes: Juhlin, Stewart and Rivera. Nays: None. Motion carried. Grant amounts awarded was also discussed. Ms. Rempp then proceeded with her annual report. The 24/25 year there was \$51,000.00 spent on advertising which increased website visits, revenue decreased, however; this was the 4<sup>th</sup> highest year since 1980. June collections were \$32,533.77 with a total of a twenty-six-million-dollar economic impact on our area. Our Tourism program remains in the top twenty (20) in the State of Nebraska for Lodging Tax collections. A copy of the entire report is available on the Dawes County website or the Clerk's Office during normal business hours. In other business, Hazard Mitigation Resolution No. 2025-23 was read aloud by Commissioner Stewart and introduced by Commissioner Juhlin, seconded by Stewart. Roll call vote, Ayes: Stewart, Rivera and Juhlin. Nays: None. Motion carried. Passage of said resolution will allow the county to plan for natural hazards and be eligible for FEMA reimbursements. The Zoning Board appointment in District 2 was discussed. Katie Schenbeck questioned the purpose of the Zoning Board and indicated she knows some individuals that might be interested in serving. The Weed surplus bids were opened to wit: Deb Lesmeister bid \$52.00 for two (2) metal gates and Brian Grant bid \$110.00 for two (2) metal gates and \$22.00 for the hog panels. The Sheriff's Department also had bids opened to wit: Sam Wellnitz bid \$555.55 for the 2011 Tahoe and Dillion McGannon bid \$3800.00 for the 2011 Tahoe. Commissioner Stewart, seconded by Juhlin, awarding the bid in each case to the highest bidder. Roll call vote, Ayes: Rivera, Juhlin and Rivera. Nays: None. Motion carried.

At 9:43 A.M. Sam Wellnitz, Treasurer, met with the Board. He presented the 2024/2025 Distress Warrant report. In 2024/2025 \$26,505.54 was collected with \$14,576.61 uncollected, the unsold parcels from tax sale and two (2) personal property tax which are fifteen (15) years old. Commissioner Stewart, seconded by Juhlin, moved to strike Wiegel's Fine Jewelry from personal property taxes in the amount of \$184.69 plus interest. Roll call vote, Ayes: Juhlin, Stewart and Rivera. Nays: None. Motion carried. Commissioner Stewart, seconded by Juhlin, moved to approve the 2024/2025 Distress Warrant report as presented by the Treasurer. Roll call vote, Ayes: Stewart, Rivera and Juhlin. Nays: None. Motion carried. The Board recessed at 9:56 A.M. and reconvened to regular session at 10:18 A.M.

At 10:19 A.M. Adam Edmund, Deputy County Attorney and Vance Haug, County Attorney, met with the Board regarding a contract for legal services. Mr. Edmund reported he worked 455 hours for Dawes County last calendar year at \$200.00 per hour. The 2025/2026 budget proposes a cut in legal services. Mr. Haug reported \$200.00 per hour is standard but some Attorneys are higher. He reported he tried to do all of his statutory duties without a Deputy for fourteen (14) years. Caseloads are growing every year. 300-500 criminal cases per year, 50-100 Juvenile cases per year, 300-500 child support cases a year. He oversees all Mental Health hearings and is the Dawes County Coroner. He indicated he needs help trying to accomplish all his duties. Sam Wellnitz, Treasurer, joined the meeting. A signed contract is necessary according to Commissioner Stewart. Commissioner Rivera asked if they had a contract prepared. Mr. Edmund provided a copy of the contract to Mr. Rivera. Commissioner Rivera expressed concern with our Deputy County Attorney not being able to represent the county in a recent court case due to a conflict of interest. Commissioner Rivera asked what appointed counsel receives. Mr. Edmund indicated \$100.00 per hour. Commissioner Stewart indicated for the record that under the currently budgeted amount for 2025/2026 the county would receive 175 hours at \$200.00 per hour. An accounting of hours worked was requested by Commissioner Rivera going forward. Discussion ensued. Mr. Edmund will provide quarterly reports on hours worked. Mileage was discussed but no action taken. Commissioner Rivera indicated for the record that a recent case was resolved by outside counsel after four (4) years. Mr. Edmund responded by saying it was best to not charge forward on a court order to avoid another lawsuit.

At 11:10 A.M. Melissa Mracek and Rob Eirich, UNL Extension met with the Board. Ms. Mracek presented an addendum to the Interlocal Agreement with Dawes County which will replace the contracted position with the County paying twenty-five percent (25%) of the costs associated with an Educator. Box Butte, Sheridan and Dawes County will all pay 25% of the costs associated with the Educator and UNL will pay 30%. Discussion ensued. Mr. Eirich requested the Board give back a portion of the contracted position to be used towards an Intern during Fair. Commissioner Stewart indicated the Board won't know if this is possible until after the LB644 hearing is done. Commissioner Stewart, seconded by Juhlin, approving the addendum to the Interlocal Agreement with UNL Extension jointly funded by Box Butte, Sheridan and Dawes Counties and UNL. Roll call vote, Ayes: Rivera, Juhlin and Stewart. Nays: None. Motion carried.

There being no further business before the Board the meeting was adjourned at 11:18 A.M. The next meeting of the Dawes County Commissioners will be held on September 23, 2025 beginning at 9:00 A.M. The meeting will be held in the Commissioner Room. The agenda will close at noon on September 18, 2025. **All Resolutions adopted by the Dawes County Board of Commissioners are available for public inspection during normal business hours of the County Clerk's Office.**

**ATTEST:** \_\_\_\_\_  
**Cheryl Feist**  
**Dawes County Clerk**

**DAWES COUNTY COMMISSIONERS**  
\_\_\_\_\_  
**Vic Rivera**

**September 09, 2025 the following claims were audited, allowed and warrant orders drawn on their respective accounts: Key for claims:** 100=General Fund; 200=Roads Fund; 650=HwyBridgeBuyback Program Fund; 990=Visitor's Fund; 1100=Reappraisal Fund; 1150=Preservation&Modernization Fund; 1900=Veterans Aid Fund; 2360=Drug Fund; 2500=Grants Fund; 2501=CDGB Fund 2700=Inheritance; 2910-911=Emergency Communications; 2913=Wireless Communications; 4600= Bond Payment Fund clerk

<b>FUND</b>	<b>NAME</b>	<b>TOTCLAIMS</b>
100	AFLAC	\$ 2,205.03
100	AMERITAS LIFE INSURANCE CORP	\$ 11,763.72
100	AT&T MOBILITY	\$ 92.84
100	BLUE CROSS & BLUE SHIELD OF NE	\$ 39,456.91
100	BRANDT COURT REPORTING	\$ 1,012.70
100	CASH-WA DISTRIBUTING CO	\$ 1,840.83
100	CENTURYLINK	\$ 524.20
100	CHADRON COMMUNITY HOSPITAL & HEALTH	\$ 117.00
100	ARON CHRISMAN	\$ 20.60
100	CITY OF CHADRON	\$ 982.34
100	CULLIGAN-ASSESSOR	\$ 77.55
100	DAS STATE ACCOUNTING	\$ 334.00
100	DAWES CO TREAS/DELINQUENT PP TAXES	\$ 54.78
100	DAWES CO TREAS/NPERS PAY BACK 624	\$ 8.43
100	DAWES CO TREAS/NPERS PAY BACK 651	\$ 56.38
100	DAWES COUNTY DISTRICT COURT	\$ 330.00
100	DAWES COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE	\$ 82.00
100	DAWES COUNTY TREASURER	\$ 262.50
100	DOCU-SHRED LLC	\$ 80.00
100	AUDREY M LONG	\$ 450.00
100	FAIRFIELD INN AND SUITES-KEARNEY	\$ 539.80
100	MICHAEL FELTON	\$ 500.00
100	FIRST BANKCARD/PUBLIC DEFENDER	\$ 601.76
100	FIRST BANKCARD/ROBERTA COLEMAN	\$ 245.19

100	FIRST BANKCARD/WEED DEPT	\$ 134.52
100	FIRST NATIONAL BANK, NORTH PLATTE	\$ 20,042.87
100	GALLS	\$ 305.28
100	GREAT PLAINS COMMUNICATIONS	\$ 2,423.40
100	HARRIS SALES COMPANY INC	\$ 115.52
100	HAUSER'S GRAB N GO LLC	\$ 844.82
100	REBECCA HUTCHINGS	\$ 110.00
100	IDEAL LINEN SUPPLY,INC	\$ 186.81
100	INTRALINKS,INC	\$ 1,640.77
100	MADISON NATIONAL LIFE	\$ 65.04
100	MIDWEST SPECIAL SERVICES	\$ 828.80
100	MIPS INC	\$ 3,566.15
100	MOBIUS COMMUNICATIONS	\$ 293.60
100	NE HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES SYSTEM	\$ 93.00
100	NEBRASKA DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE	\$ 2,668.26
100	NEBRASKA PUBLIC POWER DIST-E911	\$ 31.00
100	NEBRASKA PUBLIC POWER DIST-WEED	\$ 116.26
100	NEBRASKA STATE FIRE MARSHAL	\$ 120.00
100	NEBRASKA TOTAL OFFICE/TREASURER	\$ 8.79
100	NORFOLK LODGE AND SUITES,LLC	\$ 375.00
100	PANHANDLE AREA DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT	\$ 1,894.64
100	PESTS GO	\$ 35.00
100	PROCOPY INC	\$ 20.78
100	QUILL CORPORATION-COUNTY COURT	\$ 246.98
100	MALYCHANH SAYALOUNE	\$ 12.96
100	SKAVDAHL & EDMUND	\$ 5,545.60
100	VERIZON WIRELESS/COUNTY ATTORNEY	\$ 90.12
100	VSP VISION PLAN	\$ 249.53
200	AFLAC	\$ 449.81
200	AMERITAS LIFE INSURANCE CORP	\$ 1,291.74
200	BEGUIN PROPANE	\$ 941.76
200	BLUE CROSS & BLUE SHIELD OF NE	\$ 1,395.62
200	BRAD'S TRUCK SERVICE	\$ 972.48
200	CENTURYLINK	\$ 26.82
200	CITY OF CHADRON	\$ 56.37

200	CITY OF CRAWFORD	\$ 45.92
200	FIRST BANKCARD/ROADS	\$ 2.40
200	FIRST NATIONAL BANK, NORTH PLATTE	\$ 3,547.10
200	HERREN BROTHERS TRUE VALUE	\$ 6,359.42
200	HILLS TIRE & SUPPLY	\$ 16,807.00
200	KAISER TIRE LLC	\$ 4,234.50
200	MEDICAL ENTERPRISES,INC	\$ 36.00
200	MOBIUS COMMUNICATIONS	\$ 76.00
200	MONTANA CSED SDU-WAGE WITHOLDING	\$ 165.00
200	NEBRASKA DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE	\$ 766.68
200	NEBRASKA PUBLIC POWER DISTRICT	\$ 56.27
200	POWER SCREENING,LLC	\$ 42,500.00
200	POWERPLAN	\$ 17,845.38
200	STURDEVANT'S AUTO PARTS	\$ 414.97
200	ULINE	\$ 214.26
200	VIAERO WIRELESS-ROADS	\$ 81.04
200	VSP VISION PLAN	\$ 100.81
200	WAHLSTROM FORD INC	\$ 566.49
200	XEROX CORPORATION/ROADS	\$ 25.22
200	21ST CENTURY EQUIPMENT	\$ 375.66
990	AFLAC	\$ 33.38
990	AMERITAS LIFE INSURANCE CORP	\$ 83.59
990	BLUE CROSS & BLUE SHIELD OF NE	\$ 116.98
990	FIRST BANKCARD/TOURISM	\$ 793.62
990	FIRST NATIONAL BANK, NORTH PLATTE	\$ 157.02
990	NEBRASKA DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE	\$ 29.73
990	OLD WEST TRAILS RODEO	\$ 1,000.00
990	VSP VISION PLAN	\$ 10.08
995	BEST WESTERN WEST HILLS INN	\$ 103.20
995	CLASSICS IN THE PARK	\$ 2,343.00
995	HOMESLICE MEDIA GROUP,LLC	\$ 4,946.01
1150	FIRST BANKCARD/CHERYL FEIST	\$ 52.87
2910	AMERITAS LIFE INSURANCE CORP	\$ 4.50
2910	FIRST NATIONAL BANK, NORTH PLATTE	\$ 17.86
2910	GREAT PLAINS COMMUNICATIONS	\$ 213.38
2910	INTRALINKS,INC	\$ 156.99

2910	NEBRASKA DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE	\$ 3.77
2913	CENTURYLINK-E911 MAINTENANCE	\$ 6,430.28